(ग) क्या इस प्रयोजनार्थ कोई भवन या गोदाम खाली कराए जाने का विचार है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उन क्षेत्रों का ब्यौरा क्या है जहां ये स्थित हैं?

उद्योग मंत्रालय (लघु उद्योग और कृषि तथा ग्रामीण उद्योग) में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम॰ अरूणाचलम्) (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) से (घ) उपर्युक्त (क) को ध्यान में रखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

देवघर, पटना और छोटानागपुर में पर्यटन के विकास हेतु परियोजना प्रस्ताव

*431. **श्री सहदेव आनन्द पासवान :**
श्री सोमपाल :

क्या वस्त्र, विनिवेश और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार राज्य सरकार ने देवघर, पटना और छोटानागपुर में पर्यटन के विकास हेतु कोई परियोजना केन्द्र सरकार की स्वीकृति हेतु भेजी है;

(ख) यदि, हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और इस पर कितनी धनराशि व्यय किये जाने की संभावना है;

(ग) केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा उक्त परियोजनाओं को कब तक स्वीकृति प्रदान किये जाने की संभावना है और केन्द्र की ओर से उसके लिए कितनी राशि दी जाएगी;

(घ) क्या बिहार राज्य सरकार द्वारा केन्द्र सरकार ने अनुमोदनार्थ उक्त परियोजना के अतिरिक्त पर्यटन विकास संबंधी कोई अन्य परियोजना भेजी गई है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उनकी संख्या कितनी है और उन पर कब तक निर्णय लिये जाने की संभावना है ?

भागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद) : (क) से (ग) देवघर में जन-सुविधाओं के निर्माण के लिए 2.57 लाख रुपये की अनुमानित लागत पर एक प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत किया है । पटना और छोटानागपुर में पर्यटन के विकास के लिए राज्य सरकार से कोई अन्य पूरा परियोजना प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है ।

(घ) और (ङ) गत 3 वर्षों के दौरान देवघर और छोटानागपुर आदिवासी मेले में जन-सुविधाओं सहित 28 परियोजनाएं स्वीकृत की गई हैं ।

PF Arrears of FACT, Udyogamandal

*432. SHRI K.K. VEERAPPAN :
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of PF arrears pending payment as per the assessment of PF authorities in case of FACT, Udyogamandal, as on date:

(b) the details thereof including the arrears to be paid, the date on which the amount is due and also the steps taken to pay the amount;

(c) whether any steps in the past has been taken by PF authorities to recover PF dues; and

(d) if so, what has been the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) No Provident Fund arrears are pending as per the assessment of Provident Fund authorities in respect of the managerial and non-managerial employees of Fertilizers and Chemicals, Travancore Limited (FACT), Udyogamandal.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) In January, 1991, the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Kochi determined a liability of Rs. 17,71,232 against FACT towards arrears of Employees' Provident Fund contribution for the period December, 1971 to September, 1987 in respect of 249 workers engaged by contractors. The matter is subjudice and recovery has been stayed by the Kerala High Court.

Entitlement of the employees of the Spices Board to pensionary benefits

*433. SHRI M. A. BABY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to the Spices Board Act, 1986, the employees of the Board are eligible for pensions;

(b) whether the rules have been framed to give effect to the relevant provision of the Act; and

(c) if not, what, meausers are being considered or proposed to be considered by Government to rectify the anomalies if any, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Government's policy is that statutory organisations such as the Spices Board should formulate their own pension schemes without casting any budgetary liability

on the Government. The Spices Board has been advised to devise a suitable scheme in the light of this policy.

Empanelment of 1962 batch of IAS Officers

*434. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether government have received direct representations from the officers and also the public representatives about the grievances expressed regarding empanelment of 1962 batch of IAS officers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that some officers from 1962 batch who served as long as ten years in international agencies have been empanelled as Secretaries;

(d) if so, the details of officers of 1962 batch who have been empanelled as Secretaries after serving for six years or more abroad;

(e) in what way will the experience of such officers be useful to Government of India and

(f) whether Government would review the promotion and empanelment of such officers who have spent a large part of their career abroad with the international agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Representations have been received in respect of 4 IAS officers of 1962 batch for review of their cases for empanelment to hold a Secretary level posts at the Centre.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) There are no such officers.

(e) The experience gained by the officers during their employment in the international agencies is useful to the Government of India in view of the global perspectives and insights acquired in relation to different areas of public administration.

(f) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Advance to Russia for Purchase of Tobacco.

*435. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO :
DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Govt. of India have given ad-hoc advance to the Govt. of Russia for import of Tobacco from India;

(b) if so, what is the amount;

(c) whether the advance has been fully utilised for the same purpose by the Russian Government;

(d) to what extent this ad-hoc advance has been helpful to the Tobacco growers in India;

(e) whether such arrangement is made for other items also; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 100 crores.

(c) An amount of Rs. 94.37 crores has already been utilised for purchase of Tobacco.

(d) Because of the release of ad-hoc advance, declining trend of auction floor prices in the Northern and Central Black Soil Regions was reversed. Had the uncertainty regarding Russian purchases continued, the market situation would have been much worse.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

India's balance of trade position during the last three years

*436. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *ALIAS* MEEM AFZAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) in what manner India's balance of trade compares with the corresponding figures at the close of the last three financial years; and

(b) what concrete steps are contemplated to achieve positive balance of trade figure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Figures of India's balance of trade for the last three financial years and for April-June '93, the latest period for which such data are available, are as under :